

What is the OMEGA Users Group, and why is its connection to the NIF/Jupiter Users Group so important and vital?

1. It presents wonderful, *but complementary*, opportunities to advance the frontiers of high-energy-density science through these uniquely different facilities.
2. There is already substantial work being done by National Labs, LLE and University Researchers in taking platforms and concepts from OMEGA to the NIF.
3. The Issues, problems, and opportunities of the OMEGA Users Group are quite “universal” and common to many issues of the NIF/Jupiter Users Group. **We can and will help each other again and again!**

So what is the The OMEGA Users Group?

It comprises 152 researchers working:

1. To facilitate communications and exchanges among users, and between users and the OMEGA management and the wider community
2. To present on-going and proposed research at the frontiers
3. To provide an opportunity for students and postdocs to present their research in a cordial atmosphere
4. To initiate collaborations that can be undertaken in a complementary fashion at NIF, LULI, Tx Pw, Trident,....;

25% of OMEGA shots are influenced and impacted by our Users group (impact also extends to programmatic elements).

To accomplish these goals, **one** important activity of the OMEGA Users Group is annual workshops where the facility and the science are critiqued.



On 29 April – 1 May 2009, over one hundred Researchers from around the world, from 29 universities and laboratories, attended the first OMEGA Users Group Workshop.

32 students and postdocs attended, and presented 31 workshop presentations (27 received travel assistance from NNSA grant) .



Importantly, the postdoc-student panel wrote an outstanding report how to improve the OMEGA facility, and the generic issues that confront young researchers in high-energy-density science (<http://ouw.ile.rochester.edu>)

Not to be outdone by the Student/postdoc Workshop panel, the stodgy OMEGA Users Group Executive Committee also wrote a detailed report of recommendations and findings that addressed:

1. **Present and future needs** of the OMEGA facility..... beam smoothing, pulse shaping, diagnostics, priorities for OMEGA-EP, targets,... ..
2. **General User issues**.... details relevant to designing and implementing experiments, including expert “help” from the facility,
3. **Broader issues (beyond OMEGA)**..... lack of opportunities for diagnostic development and hands-on experience in universities,....
4. **Importance of strong ties** to NIF, LULI, RAL,to take advantage of complementary but unique facility differences and opportunities...

(Details are found at <http://ouw.lle.rochester.edu>)

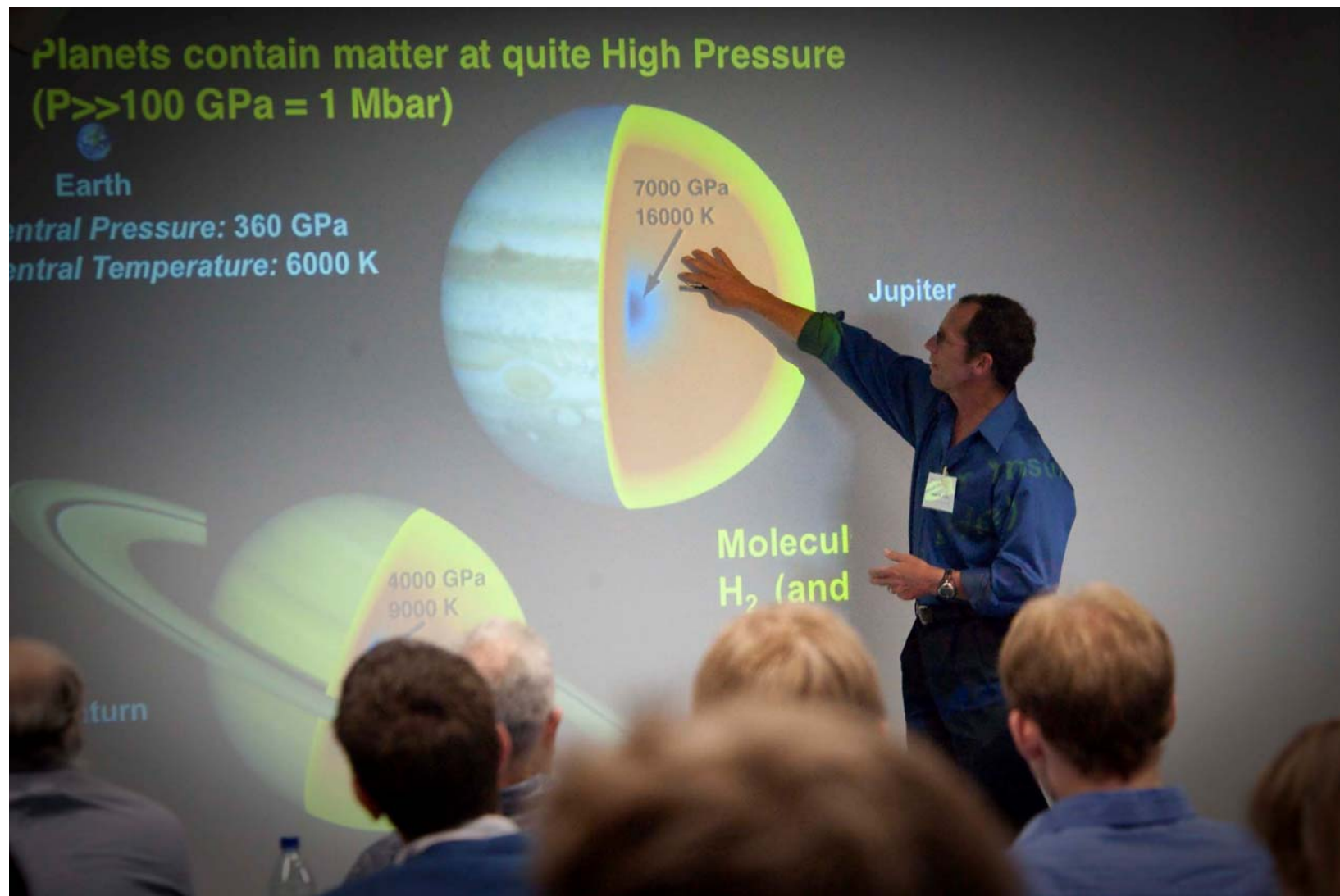
Important to this on-going process, every 2 months an OMEGA Users Executive committee member meets with the OMEGA management to assess progress on these topics. “Easy” to generate reports and recommendations, but what is done to see that they are implemented? Will report progress on recommendations at APS. (is significant).

The 62 workshop presentations covered a wide spectrum of cutting-edge high-energy-density science relevant to OMEGA, NIF, and other HED facilities.



Many spirited and lively discussions ensued in poster and workshop breakout sessions, with the results ending up in the *Reports of Recommendations and Findings* (<http://ouw.lle.rochester.edu>)

Important connections between OMEGA and NIF were brought out in several presentations.



Here Rip Collins (alias Dr. Tofu) talks about “*Materials under extreme conditions at OMEGA and the NIF*”

The French brought a dashing but friendly contingent to the workshop with many exciting ideas and zest!



“Vive La France!”

The Brits and their colleagues, not to be outdone, brought restrained exuberance to the Workshop, and vital libations:



Long Live the Queen!

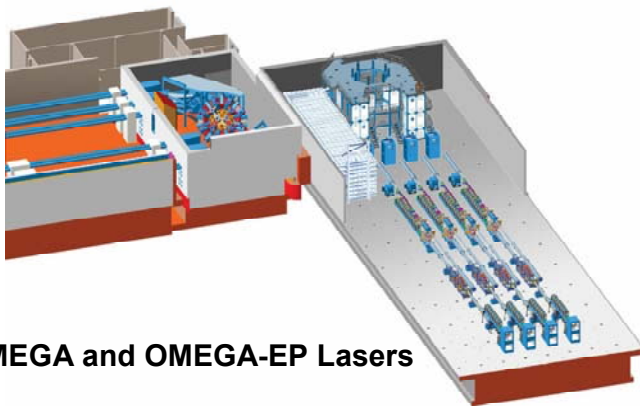
Plans for the 2nd OMEGA Users workshop of 29-30 April 2010 are well underway. Come to meeting this Tue at 5:30.

**Join us at IFSA for planning the
2010 2nd OMEGA Users' Group Workshop**
Tues. 8 Sept. at 5:30-6:30, Grand Ballroom Section AB on 3rd floor

2nd OMEGA Users' Group Workshop

29 – 30 April 2010 • Laboratory for Laser Energetics • Rochester, NY

- Understanding the OMEGA facility
- High-Energy-Density-Science and ICF overview talks
- Many user presentations and working groups
- Connecting OMEGA platforms to NIF, LULI, TX PW,....



OMEGA and OMEGA-EP Lasers



Student and postdoc attendees
at the 1st OMEGA Users' Workshop

Importantly, as in the 1st Workshop, travel aid will be available to students/postdocs via a NNSA grant.

The OMEGA Users Group has a strong and vital connection to the NIF/Jupiter Users Group

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